

Architecture LibGuide Usability for Online and Remote Students

Study conducted during November 2020 by the TTU Library UX Unit



70 undergraduates and graduates participated in this study. They took the survey remotely at their own convenience.



Participants completed a survey in return for a chance to win a \$25 Amazon gift card.

Overall the students thought the LibGuide was useful, but were confused by the overall number of options available.

Initial question:
*How usable is the
Architecture LibGuide for
online and remote students?*

- Users liked having tutorials and handouts they could access off-campus.
- Users had difficulties distinguishing between different resources because they were grouped together.
- Users disliked untrackable links because they couldn't tell where they had already been in the guide.
- Users wanted explanation on how different resources help in different ways.

As a result of testing, we recommended the following:

- Add more explanation about different resources, specifically describing their differences so users can pick the best one for their goal.
- Update links to be trackable (i.e., change color when you've clicked on them).
- Continue to refine resource explanations to better answer user's questions.

Changes in the library:
*Architecture Library
employees updated the
LibGuide for better usability*

We want library patrons to use digital resources to do the research they want to. Given the difficulties with telling resources apart, we worked with Architecture Library to update the LibGuide for better usability. Those went live in Spring 2021, so drop us a line at libraries.ux@ttu.edu to let us know what you think about them!